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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director. OSA

SUBJECT:

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A-12 Modification Program for Aircraft #123 and #124

1. This memorandum contains recommendations for the approval of the Assistant Director, OSA. Such recommendations are contained in peragraph 4.

2. During recent visit to Headquarters, Mr. Parangosky presented an informal briefing on A-12 delivery and retrofit programs. Of special interest were Mr. Parangosky's comments on modification options being considered for eircraft #123 and #124. Specifically:

a. No "new nose" or J-58 engine modification is presently planned for aircraft /123 or #124.

(Comment: Insumuch as these modifications would require a minimum of eight to ten weeks of time, and inasmuch as aircraft #125 and #126 should be available for training within the next few weeks, no real benefit is accrued from modifying aircraft #123 and #124).

b. Aircraft #123 and #124 would be exchanged for sireraft #131 and #132 when these latter sireraft become available approximately October or November 1963. Purpose would be to earmark aircraft #123 and #124 for modification as Q-12 drone carrying aircraft.

(Comment: Definite advantages would be accrued in receiving aircraft #131 and #132, which would be fully operationally configured as well as having had later updating modifications. However, certain disadvantages will result from the loss of dual seater trainer aircraft #124. These are:

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- (1) Loss of dual checkout capability.
 (2) Loss of capability for recurrent training.
 (3) Loss of dual capability in the
- (3) loss of dual capability in the development and testing of air tectics.

J. ________ initial views on this subject were in agreement with paragraphs 2. a. and b. above. However, he requested to defer final comment until such time as he could discuss this matter with _______ was requested to submit _______ position at the earliest possible date.

4. It is recommended that:

- a. Neither aircraft #123 or #124 be modified with "new nose" or J-58 engines at this time.
- b. Aircraft #123 be released for Q-12 medification consistent with an exchange for aircraft #131.
- c. Aircraft #124 be retained for use in flight checkout, currency training, and development of air tactics. Program for "new mose" and J-58 modification for aircraft #124 be considered at a later date.

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Deputy for Field Activities, OSA

The recommendations contained in paragraph 4 are approved:

JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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